Reduction of the rate of interest on loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

*547 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation into the question of reducing the rate of interest under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agricultural Loans Act has been completed; and

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have just received the report of the Board of Revenue on the subject. The report is under examination, and orders will be passed as early as possible.

Navigation

Vessels plying in the Godavari river.

*548 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report of the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) with reference to introduction of Act I of 1917, to vessels plying in the Godavari river has been received;

(b) if so, whether the same would be placed on the table;

(c) whether any orders were passed thereon and if so, to what effect; and

(d) whether the Government will expedite the taking of necessary measures to ensure safety of passengers?

A.—(a) The Chief Engineer's report has just been received.

(b) The question will be considered after the report has been examined.

(c) The reply is in the negative.

(d) The matter is under consideration and will be disposed of as expeditiously as practicable.

Boat traffic on Godavari river.

*549 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government would call for information as regards the extent of boat traffic on the Godavari river near Kotipalli and Yanam and the number of accidents due to the capsizing of boats plied by unskilled boatsmen and the unfitness of the craft for navigation; and

(b) whether the Government intend to make the necessary regulations with reference to boat traffic in the bed of the river so as to ensure the safety of passengers by imposing restrictions against unworthy craft and unskilled pliers?

A.—(a) A report will be called for.

(b) The matter is under consideration.